

1997-98	84
1998-99	92
1999-2000	73

Foreign direct investment in Mining Sector

2895. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRIRAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Mines functioning in the country at present, State-wise and the quantum of gold, diamond, mica, iron-ore etc. extracted annually from them;

(b) whether Government have decided to open up diamond mining sector to international companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof, indicating the percentage of foreign direct investment and Government's stake in the venture;

(d) whether any offer has been received by Government in this regard and if so, what decision has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) As per information available with Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines, the details of mines functioning in the country as on March, 2000 and the quantum of gold, diamond, mica and iron ore extracted during 1999-2000 as per provisional estimates are given in the statement. (see below).

(b) and (c) Foreign equity participation upto 74% is permitted on the automatic route for exploration and mining of diamonds and precious stones. For proposals seeking higher than 74% foreign equity, the cases will have to come to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board for approval.

(d) At present the Central Government has no plans to participate in any joint venture diamond project.

STATEMENT

Foreign Direct Investment in Mining Sector

Mineral	State	No. of Mines	Production
Gold metal	Andhra Pradesh	03	05 177 Kgs.
(primary)	Karnataka	05	1832 kgs.
Diamond	Madhya Pradesh	02	40666 carats
Mica (crude,	Rajasthan	09	473 tonnes
waste & scrap)	Bihar	14	571 tonnes
	Andhra Pradesh	22	1268 tonnes
Iron Ore	Andhra Pradesh	03	340000 tonnes
	Orissa	66	11921000 tonnes
	Bihar	18	11913000 tonnes
	Madhya Pradesh	15	18582000 tonnes
	Maharashtra	03	25000 tonnes
	Karnataka	57	15681000 tonnes
	Goa	47	15002000 tonnes
	Rajasthan	03	10000 tonnes
	Haryana	01	1000 tonnes

Closure of Slate Mines in Himachal Pradesh

2896. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether closure of slate mines in Himachal Pradesh in the past has rendered several Mine Labourers unemployed;

(b) if so, the details thereof, with the number of labourers unemployed;

(c) whether the State Government has been requested to revive mining in these mines with scientific methodology or provide alternative jobs to the unemployed labourers;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to intervene in the matter in the interest of employment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?